

VZCZCXRO3392
PP RUEHFK RUEHKSO RUEHNAG RUEHNH
DE RUEHKO #1441 1480358
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 270358Z MAY 08
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4547
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
RUCPDO/USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUYNAC/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
RHHMHBA/COMPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//N541// PRIORITY
RHMFIUU/HQ PACAF HICKAM AFB HI//CC/PA// PRIORITY
RUHBANB/OKINAWA FLD OFC US FORCES JAPAN CP BUTLER JA PRIORITY
RHMFIUU/USFJ PRIORITY
INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 8006
RUEHNH/AMCONSUL NAHA 0386
RUEHNAG/AMCONSUL NAGOYA 6312
RUEHKSO/AMCONSUL SAPPORO 8598
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 1688
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 3558
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 2315
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 9556
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0003
RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC

UNCLAS TOKYO 001441

SIPDIS

STATE FOR I/RF, PA/PR/FPC/W, IIP/G/EA, EAP/PD, R/MR,
EAP/J, EAP/P, PM;
USTR FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE;
TREASURY FOR OASIA/IMI;
SECDEF FOR OASD/PA;
CP BUTLER OKINAWA FOR AREA FIELD OFFICE;
PACOM HONOLULU FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY ADVISOR

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [OIIP](#) [KMDR](#) [KPAO](#) [JA](#)

SUBJECT: TOKYO MEDIA REACTION - CYCLONE RELIEF EFFORTS
IN BURMA AND DEMOCRATIZATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

11. LEAD STORIES: Top stories on Tuesday morning included the death sentence handed down on Monday to the man who assassinated Nagasaki Mayor Ito in April 12007.

12. "Deep-Rooted Distrust Remains" On Sunday's donor nation conference in Rangoon, the liberal Tokyo Shimbun's reporter said from Bangkok (5/26): "Following the meeting, a cyclone relief mechanism was created with the UN and ASEAN guaranteeing a framework for relief operations. Mutual distrust between the junta and the U.S. and Europe runs deep, however, and a perception gap remains over the scope of assistance work. The coordination abilities of the UN and ASEAN will be tested as they try to smoothly provide aid."

13. "Democratization in Middle East Not Going Anywhere" The liberal Mainichi's Washington correspondent wrote (5/26): "...During his recent tour in the Middle East, President Bush took every opportunity to call for democratization in the region.... He may have viewed the trip as a good opportunity to put forward a grand design for security in the Middle East that trumpets the significance of peace talks. He launched a war of ideology to pit the 'virtue' of democracy against 'evil.' However, as he returned to the U.S., two developments occurred in the region without any U.S. involvement -- the resumption of peace talks between Syria and Israel brokered by Turkey, and an agreement in Lebanon to form a cabinet between the pro-U.S. ruling coalition and the opposition bloc, which is close to Syria and Iran. President Bush's message of not negotiating with but containing 'evil' failed to

get across to them."

SCHIEFFER